No.	Name of States/U.T	District	Area (Ha.)	Status
17.	Orissa	15 districts	3449.7952+ 446.995	Proposal incomplete. Additional information has been sought from the State.
18.	Rajasthan	10 districts	3171.42	discussed in Advisory Committee on 18.11.98 and additional information sought from State on 2.12.1998. Reminded on 30.7.1999.

Review of Management of National Parks

3865. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have, at any stage, reviewed the management of various National Parks in the country and the growing problem of poaching of protected animals there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the deficiencies and shortcomings noticed in the existing management system of National Parks, leading to the growing problem of poaching of protected animals;

(d) the measures contemplated by Government to strengthen the management system of National Parks; and

(e) if answer to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Government would consider to set up expert Committee for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment & Forests

has a system in place under which the officers of the Ministry visit vaious National Parks and Sanctuaries and review their functioning. Besides Members of the Steering Committee of Project Tiger and Project Elephant also review the functioning of various National Parks and sanctuaries.

(c) The deficiencies and shortcomings noticed in the functioning of National Parks and sanctuaries are:

1. Large no. of vacancies at the level of forest guards, foresters, rangers and Asstt. Conservator of Forests.

2. Inadequate mobility, ineffective communication network and lack of appropriate arms for the protection staff.

3. Lack of anti-poaching camps at sensitive sites.

4. Inadequate boundary demarcations.

5. Delay in payment of compensation for loss of life and property caused by wild animals.

(d) The Central Government provides financial assistance to State Governments for improved management of National Parks and sanctuaries including upgrading mobility, communication network, purchase of sophisticated arms, habitat improvement, augmentation of water supply and demarcation of boundaries etc.

(e) Does not airse.

Investigations into Poaching of elephants in Corbett Park

3866. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent investigations into the elephants poaching in Corbett National Park recently have shown involvement of North-East gang's role in poaching activities and gross security lapses in checking it;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Investigations into the recent